

**NIKISKI FIRE SERVICE AREA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

June 12, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER:

A. The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Chairman Cialek.

II. ROLL CALL:

Mark Cialek, Present	Acting Chief Trent Burnett, Present
Joe Arness, Present	Acting Deputy Chief Bryan Crisp, Present
Sharon Brower, Present	Teri Carter, Recording Secretary, Present
Janet Hilleary, Present	Chief of Staff James Baisden, Present
Todd Paxton, Present	Assemblyman Wayne Ogle, Present
Chrystal Leighton, Excused	Rhonda White, Recording Secretary, Present
Amber Oliva-Douglas, Present	Gail White, Present

III. AGENDA APPROVAL:

A. Chairman Cialek asked for a motion to approve the June 12, 2019 board agenda.

MOTION BY ARNESS: TO ACCEPT THE JUNE 12, 2019 NFSA BOARD AGENDA.
MOTION SECONDED BY BROWER.

MOTION BY PAXTON: FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

IV. PRESENTATIONS:

A. **Pinning Ceremony - T.J. Cox – Acting Chief Trent Burnett/Acting Deputy Chief Bryan Crisp:** Acting Deputy Chief Crisp introduced T.J. Cox and family and gave a history of the badge pinning ceremony. FF/PM T.J. Cox has finished his probation period and Bryan gave a synopsis of how T.J. came into the department, how he applied for the Paramedic Program through the college and completed the program. T.J. received his National Registry/State Paramedic license on June 27, 2018. Over that time, he has got his FF 1 at the college, he went on his own time to Fairbanks and received his FF 2 and then came back to the department to be hired. T.J. has been working diligently on his Standby Phase 1 and Phase 2. He is currently working on his PM 2 and is the newest member of the Dive Team. He has been doing training on his off time to get prepared for the Dive Team. He just went through the Engineer class so when that time frame comes up, he will be ready and have that training. T.J. was pinned by his wife Chrystal.

B. Rebecca Parnell/Medical Hospice Program for Ambulance: Rebecca Parnell gave an overview of 1st Choice Home Health Care. They provide home health care for Medicaid /Medicare patients. They are the only accredited home health agency in the whole State of Alaska. This means their agency is held to a higher standard and level of providing care to patients in the communities. Their service area is large. They serve everyone from Cooper Landing all the way down to Ninilchik, Funny River and Nikiski for home health care service. Rebecca wanted to talk with the board and present to you what is the need for a medical hospice program. Rebecca went over slides and explained how a hospice program can alleviate strain and anxiety with care givers, help with final plans and the many resources a medical hospice can provide. Rebecca explained what hospice really meant which could involve a 2-week process, a six-month process or perhaps a 10-year process. This is a journey all of us will walk through at some point. There are currently no professional medical hospice services available south of Anchorage on the whole Kenai Peninsula. The services and goals were discussed for the medical hospice. Rebecca gave an overview of what 1st Home Health accomplishes now and what she envisions for a medical hospice program. She has talked with the Mayor's office about acquiring an older ambulance through the borough. Mayor Pierce mentioned Nikiski Fire Service Area had an old ambulance they would be sending to auction. Rebecca wanted to impress on the board there is a huge need for hospice care. One requirement in applying for the medical hospice program is having an ambulance for emergent care transportation. Rebecca is asking that the board consider donating or selling at a low cost the extra ambulance at Nikiski Fire Department. Rebecca asked if the Nikiski Fire Service Area board of Directors would consider either donating the old ambulance instead of sending it to auction. She knows the board would have to make the recommendation to the borough Mayor's office.

Wayne Ogle asked if 1st Choice Home Health care were to get the ambulance from the Nikiski Fire Department – you were talking about relieving the EMT resources to do emergency calls - who would be driving for the ambulance and would there be a need for an EMT for the non-emergent transport situations. Rebecca stated if they were to get the ambulance, they planned to strip the decals off. The vehicle would be just another venue to transport patients. With medical hospice the goal is to provide care in the home but if care gets difficult and there are procedures that can be done only in a hospital then there may be need for a vehicle to transport the patient. Wayne asked if the driver needs to be professionally qualified or does anybody in the back with the patient have to be qualified. Rebecca said there would have to be an EMT which 1st Choice Home Health would have on staff. They have their own EMT on staff. Mark asked if Dispatch would call their organization or calling the normal channels. Rebecca said this vehicle would be for hospice patients which would go through their organization. Todd Paxton asked if the ambulance ride is a billable event to Medicare? Rebecca said 1st Choice Home Health would be

paying for everything. After all the services provided by 1st Choice Home Health Care have been listed, the provider would be paid \$145 flat fee for all those services.

Sharon asked Rebecca having applied for a provisional license, she is assuming Rebecca would have a rough estimate on how many patients they would be serving with that initial startup. Rebecca stated that for Alaska, provisional licenses are required to provide free services including equipment, pharmaceuticals, hospitalizations, transportation (any and everything connected to that patient), they are responsible to provide free health care for 2-5 patients until Medicare Certification Survey which could be 3 months or it could be up to 9 months. Sharon has listened to many folks that want to be home, but there were no medical services for that. Sharon wanted to know how big the need was for Rebecca's organization extrapolating that to in this grain of the peninsula. Rebecca didn't know at this point, her best guess. Alan Butte stated he was on board for donating the ambulance.

Chairman Cialek stated he would like to change the agenda as he would like to change Agenda Item A to B and Agenda Item B to A. He would like to discuss Station #3 so the affected personnel can go home. The board will have to pull out of the meeting for the Executive Session on the Chief's Position. He felt it would be nice to discussion Station #3 before the Executive Session. Mark would like a motion to approve this.

MOTION BY PAXTON: TO DISCUSS STATION #3 BEFORE THE CHIEF'S POSTION UNDER OLD BUSINESS. BROWER SECONDED THE MOTION.

MOTION BY OLIVA-DOUGLAS: FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION BY PAXTON: TO ACCEPT THE NIKISKI FIRE SERVICE AREA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY 8, 2019 BOARD MEETING MINUTES. MOTION SECONDED BY BROWER.

MOTION BY ARNESS: FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

VI. CHIEF'S REPORT:

- A. Acting Chief Burnett reported that the runs to date are 405 which is a little bit lower than last year.

Family Fun in the Sun is June 15th. The advertisement, which is in your packet for review, will be in the Peninsula Clarion as a 50-year celebration of the service area.

OUT: 8:49 P.M.
IN: 9:40 P.M.

MOTION BY BROWER: TO RESUME THE BOARD MEETING. SECONDED BY OLIVA-DOUGLAS.

MOTION BY PAXTON: FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

James Baisden stated there were fourteen applicants which were reduced down to four applicants that met the minimum requirements. They interviewed those applicants and brought it down to two (2) applicants. Tomorrow they will make notification to those two applicants. Even though this process took a long time, it allowed the board to voice their opinions.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Surplus Auction Items – Acting Chief Burnett:** Acting Chief Burnett stated that there are some items the department would like to send to auction in the fall. Gail stated that 1983 E1 and Tanker 1, the old foam truck, would be put in the auction. Gail stated these pieces of equipment are beyond service and hardly had any worth. Acting Chief Burnett wanted to bring this up and get the board's approval to accomplish this.

MOTION BY ARNESS: TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION TO PUT THE 1983 E1 AND TANKER 1 INTO THE KPB SURPLUS AUCTION. SECONDED BY OLIVIA.

MOTION BY HILLEARY: FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

- B. Donation of Ambulance for Hospice – Acting Chief Burnett:** Acting Chief Trent talked with Chief of Staff James Baisden about donating the 2001 ambulance to Rebecca Parnell so she could check off the information for her request for a medical hospice licensure. James had seen the Hospice presentation before. She has been in the Mayor's office several times. They are trying to get her to be able to check off that box for the ambulance. None of the other service areas have an ambulance. James talked with Trent and Gail. This ambulance has been sitting over here for about a year. It has no value for any of the other service areas. It is a tax payer asset so it does have some value to it. The only thing James can think to back in the past where a situation with Tesoro where one of our tankers could be transferred to Tesoro. The borough used low blue book value to accomplish this transfer. James stated it is still difficult because it is a taxpayer asset that technically needs to go up to auction. James stated if the board makes the recommendation to either donate the vehicle or offer it to the organization at the lowest possible price and then let

the borough's Legal office look at it to see if the ambulance can be given to them. They are just trying to check that box off for an ambulance to get 1st Choice's conditional use permit. James stated we all know the value of Hospice. This ambulance doesn't have any life and the organization will still have to do fund raising to fix the ambulance. Sharon asked about the borough liability if the ambulance is given away. James stated Legal has to be involved so the liability goes to 1st Choice. Janet asked if the service area knows where the ambulance would be located. Janet knows Rebecca lives in Homer. Trent thought he had been told that the ambulance would be in Soldotna. Joe Arness wanted to make sure there will be a contract written up so Nikiski Fire Department is not held liable and that all the boxes are checked. James Baisden thought it was going to be located in Soldotna.

MOTION BY ARNESS: TO DONATE THE AMBULANCE TO 1ST CHOICE HOME HEALTH CARE TO ENSURE THE ORGANIZATION CAN CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOXES TO ATTAIN THEIR MEDICAL HOSPICE LICENSURE. SECONDED BY BROWER.

MOTION BY PAXTON: FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

IX. NO PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

X. NO BOARD COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION BY ARNESS: TO ADJOURN. SECONDED BY BROWER.

MOTION BY HILLEARY: FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman



Rhonda White
Recording Secretary



Mark Cialek
Date: 9/11/19